### Love at first bite Dawn H Gouge

Cimex lectularius



### 2001 Navajo Nation 1 of 3 sites



School dorm beds sprayed with diazinon weekly

EPA registration loss for in-home diazinon for use 2004

- Bed bug cases noticeably increased in AZ in 2007
- Over-use and abuse of retail pesticides and other chemicals increasingly evident
- 2007-2011 data from individuals calling by phone, sending written correspondence, or attending

educational / outreach events

#### MARICOPA COUNTY – 300% INCREASE BETWEEN 2008-2010



- Most commonly used pesticide choices for residents battling bed bugs was total release foggers, & aerosol sprays
- 9% of residents had applied gasoline on their bed
- 19% of people had attempted non-chemical interventions
- 31% had used more than two chemicals

## People do not understand that killing the bugs they <u>see</u> doesn't help



- 42% people understand what behaviors put them at risk
- 89% indicated extreme stress, 100% indicated some anxiety
- 4.5% of residents attempted to seal cracks and crevices
- 8.9% had paid a company to remediate the infestation

- Few (>7%) people had no concerns when informed of average remediation costs
- 32% of specimens submitted as bed bugs or possible bed bugs were not bed bugs



## \$400-5000

- 1. Fumigation
- 2. Heat treatments
- 3. Pesticides

## Common bed bug treatments

 Multiple applications of insecticides



- Crack and crevice applications
- Resistance to pyrethroid products is <u>very high</u>
- Not all populations are resistant to the same products
- Two general types of resistance occurring



Due to increasing resistance problems non-chemical treatment options are emerging as industry standards







The poor are at greatest risk

Increased number of people reporting long-term (beyond a year) bed bugs





### Socioeconomic risk















- Over the counter pesticides used in/on school backpacks
- Children missing school for more than 6 months
- Psychiatric patients refused admission to medical facilities
- Isolation from friends and family
- Bed bug detection dogs providing false positives

- Excellent detectors
- Can distinguish between live and dead bugs
- Good for lawsuit defense
- Expensive and require constant training
- Are only as good as their handler

## Canine detection





- Training differs
- Verification differs
- Few third party certifications



#### Loss of:

- Home and/or belongings
- Financial stability
- Mental stability
- Partner
- Employment
- Children?



In 2012 we developed an on-line survey tool to methodically determine bed bug impacts and analyze the behavioral risk factors associated with bed bug infestations

#### 2014 launch

Bed Bug survey in English:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DGLQS52

Bed Bug survey in Spanish:

https://es.surveymonkey.com/s/F5NZXJK



# Maybe?

### Other observations

Doctors and PA's diagnose bed

bugs based on bite reactions

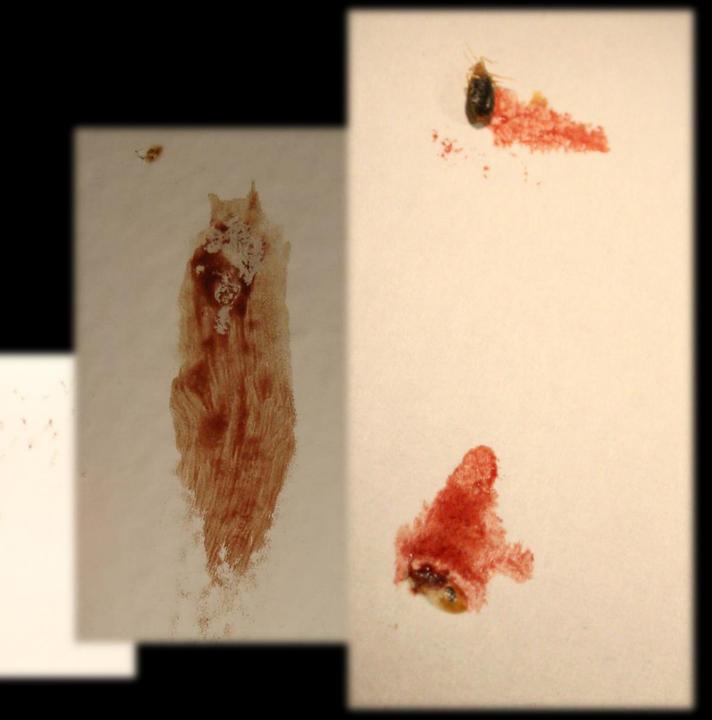


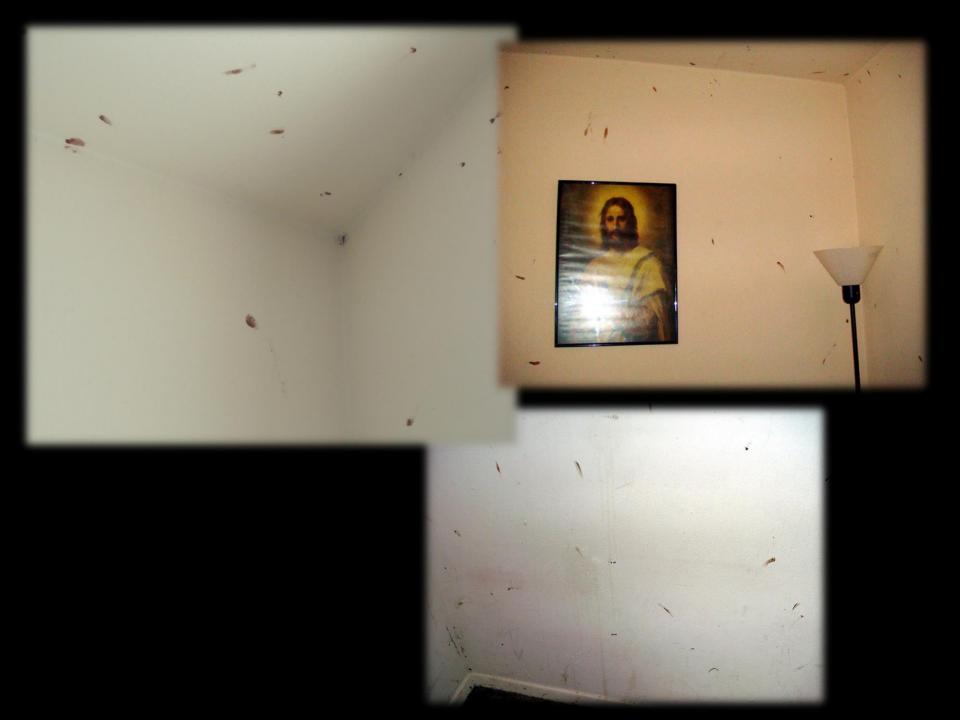




#### Blood

Smash and drag





#### Non chemical methods

- Becoming the primary methods used in combination with chemical methods
  - -Heat/Cold
  - -Vacuuming
  - -Mattress encasements
  - -Desiccant dusts
  - -Other



- Most companies provide preparation instructions
- Instructions make treatments easier for PMP
- Difficult for the resident: laundry bill
- Top complaint is lack of tenant cooperation

## Treatment preparations



New way of thinking! Leave the infestation in place

#### Heat kills bed bugs best of all!

• Items can be placed in a hot dryer dry for 40 minutes after items

are dry

Washing only,
 does not kill
 bed bugs

Heat box for books, etc.



Residents need to know that showering removes bugs from your person





- Encasements for both mattress and box springs!
- Improved version has a zipper protector sewn in
- Traps bed bugs and eggs, bite proof and escape proof

## Mattress covers



## Not all covers protect



#### Desiccant dusts

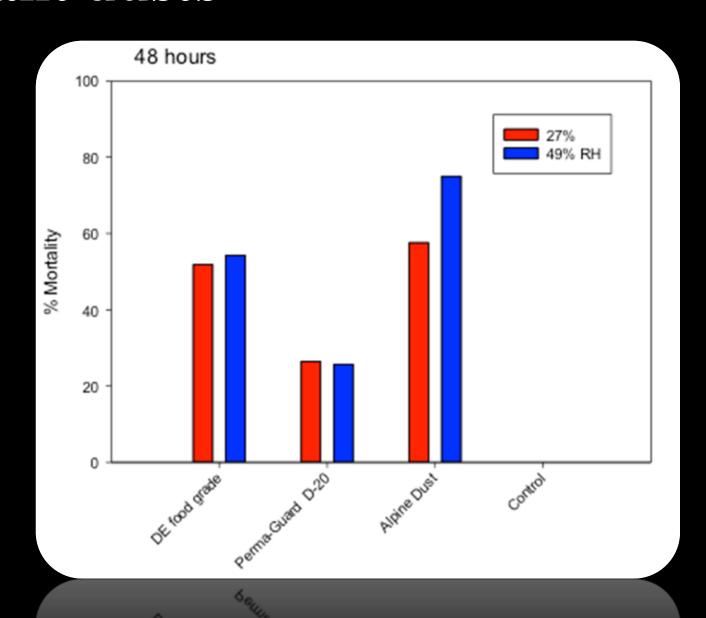
- Desiccant dusts are ultimately more effective than sprays
- Resistant strain died in ~36 hours
- Diatomaceous Earth
  - insecticide grade 2-3 days
- Silica dust
  - -2-3 days
- Lasts unchanged in wall voids for years in low humidity



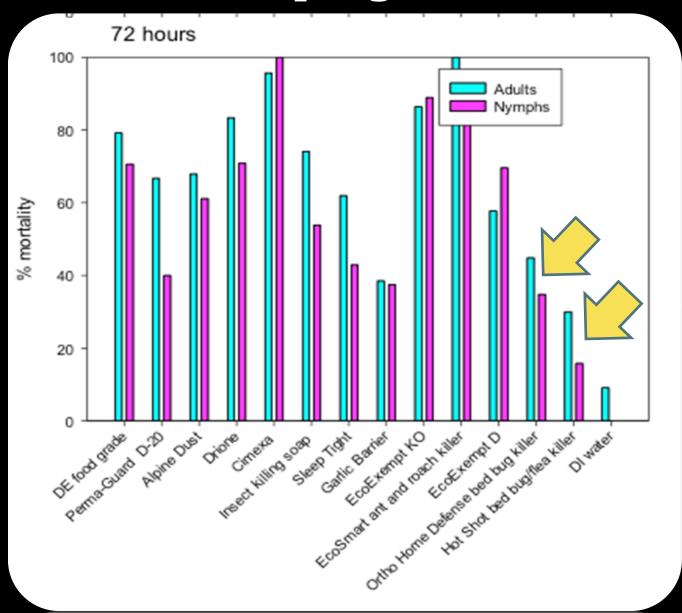
#### Desiccant dusts

### Best So far





#### DIY stores are not helping



## UNHAPPY BED BUGS

- Schools
  usually lack
  - a food source at night
- Boarding schools are the exception
- Backpacks, books, clothing, wheelchairs from home provide harborage and transport
- Schools can be transitional locations





• In-school transfer does occur

- Accurately identify all specimens
- · Notify all parents of kids in the room
- Provide basic information
- Inspect room, monitor, careful cleaning and vacuuming
- Reduce clutter
- Isolate student belongings in clear plastic bags
- Usually no need for residual insecticides

### Children missing school

Faculty and staff losing their jobs

Affected families move homes and schools

Extreme chemical use



- School nurses look for bites on arms, face, hands, legs, skin exposed while sleeping
- Ask questions gently
- <u>Do not</u> send students home



### Bed bug prevention in school

- The school community should be notified about bed bug sightings and offered resources
- Belongings of students should be separated as a matter of policy
- Use ziplock bags and storage containers for belongings
- This is not easy but it is reality

#### Parents

- Inform parents how to send students to school free of bugs
  - -Launder clothes, dry heat for shoes, backpacks, etc.
  - -Clothing items stored separated from bed bug areas in airtight bags



## Phoenix union high school district

- Policy 2012-2013 school year
- 2013-2014 > 75% reduction in roving bed bug sightings
- Cleaning and monitoring not "spraying"

#### Bed bugs everywhere not just homes

- Medical
- Cinemas
- Libraries
- Elder/disabled care
- Cinemas/theatres
- Retail outlets
- Transportation
- Schools/childcare



Over whelming need for community education

